

EAST LONGMEADOW PUBLIC SCHOOLS Revised 2019

**Health Services
180 Maple Street, East Longmeadow, MA 01028**

Pediculosis Protocol

Identification:

1. Letters to parent/guardians, of students in Grade Pre-K -5, with information about pediculosis will be distributed in September of each school year.
2. Students referred by staff, parents or self-referred will be screened.
3. Siblings of the identified student will also be screened.
4. Parents of students who are identified as having pediculosis will be informed and instructed to call PCP about necessary treatment. Information will be provided, as needed.
5. The child may return to school after treatment but must first be seen by the nurse.

Treatment:

1. Medicated shampoo or cream rinse prescribed by M.D. or products recommended by pharmacist. Apply as directed.
2. Removal of nits with a metal fine toothcomb. It may even be necessary to use tweezers or even fingernails. A rinse of a vinegar solution may be helpful to loosen the nits.

Return to School:

1. Student may return to school after treatment.
2. Student must be screened by the nurse.
3. Each child must be screened in a bright, well -lit room (sunlight is best), before returning to class.
4. If nits remain, parent/guardian will be asked to re-comb hair at home until nits are removed and child will be re-screened by the nurse.
5. Nurse will re-screen treated students 10 – 14 days after return to school.

Two or more reported cases within 10 days in a classroom then:

1. Check entire class.
2. Parent will be informed of screening and child may return after the first treatment once seen by the nurse.
3. Letter sent to parent/guardians of students in class when two or more cases of pediculosis is discovered.

Note: Instruction sheets for the detection and treatment of head lice will be available in the health room in each school.